

NSC BRIEFING

18 November 1955

**BULGANIN-KHRUSHCHEV ITINERARY**

- I. Bulganin and Khrushchev now in India. Will proceed about 5 December to Burma for one week stay; then to Afghanistan for one week.
- A. Reports of a subsequent stop at Cairo still unconfirmed.
  - B. They are accompanied by high level staff especially qualified to discuss political, trade and cultural relations with South Asians.
  - C. N. A. Mikhailov - Minister of Culture
    - A. A. Gromyko - First Deputy Foreign Minister
    - P. M. Kумыkin - Deputy Foreign Trade Minister
    - I. A. Serov - Head of the Committee of State Security (KGB)
  - D. R. Rasulov - Deputy Minister of Agriculture (native of Tadzik Republic)
  - Mme. Z. R. Rakhimbabayeva - First Deputy Minister of Culture of the Uzbek Republic
- These are only the top members of the delegation, which may be as large as 30 people.
- 1. There are Uzbek and Tadzhik minorities in Afghanistan.
- II. Bulganin and Khrushchev are visiting major cities of India (Bombay, Calcutta, Madras) and other show places.

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A. A good chance they will also visit Shilai, apparently in anticipation of India's early acceptance of Soviet steel mill offer.

1. Soviet survey teams already on scene, and housing construction activity has been reported.

III. King Saud is to be in India while Soviet leaders are there.

IV. Soviets more interested in good relations with India than with any other country in area.

V. Soviet leaders undoubtedly will arrive with rash of offers for all three countries, especially economic and technical assistance.

VI. It is expected that the three states will be more susceptible to Soviet offers than previously because of particularly acute economic problems they face at present.

A. Also the lack of Soviet attempts to attach political strings to economic assistance has convinced many Asians that they can do business with the Soviet Union without succumbing to Communist ideologies.

VII. In any event, visit of Soviet leaders will enhance Soviet influence in area.

A. Visit will lend cloak of respectability to communist policies and open way for even further contacts between these countries and Soviet bloc.